



*REPORT*

Virtual Meeting  
12 January 2017

# Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments January, 2017



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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## 1. Opening of the meeting

[1] The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat (hereafter referred to “Secretariat”) support for Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT) chaired the meeting and welcomed the following participants:

1. Mr Toshiyuki DOHINO (Japan)
2. Mr Guy HALLMAN (FAO/IAEA)
3. Mr Scott MYERS (USA)
4. Mr David OPATOWSKI (Steward for the draft ISPM *Requirements for the use of fumigation treatments as a phytosanitary measure* (2014-004))
5. Mr Michael ORMSBY (New Zealand)
6. Mr Andrew PARKER (FAO/IAEA)
7. Mr Eduardo WILLINK
8. Mr Yuejin WANG (China)
9. Mr Daojian YU (China)
10. Ms Adriana G. MOREIRA (IPPC Secretariat lead)
11. Mr Martin FARREN (IPPC Secretariat support)
12. Ms Janka KISS (IPPC Secretariat support)
13. Mr Piotr WLODARCZYK (IPPC Secretariat support)

[2] The full list of TPPT members and their contact details can be found on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP)<sup>1</sup>.

[3] The Secretariat introduced the agenda and it was adopted as presented in Appendix 1 to this report.

### Election of rapporteur

[4] Mr Scott MYERS was elected as the rapporteur.

## 2. TPPT work programme: Draft ISPM: Requirements for the use of fumigation treatments as a phytosanitary measure (2014-004)

[5] The Secretariat reminded the participants that the draft ISPM on Requirements for the use of fumigation treatments as a phytosanitary measure (2014-004) is to be discussed by the Standards Committee (SC) in May 2017 and is tentatively planned to be submitted to the first consultation in July 2017. The Secretariat recalled the participants that this draft ISPM was discussed in two TPPT virtual meetings held in October and December 2016, but had not been finalized due to time constraints. The TPPT members were invited to send their comments to the Steward and Assistant Stewards, and the updated revised version was now the subject of discussion.

[6] In the previous meeting, the TPPT concluded that the section on “Treatment types” should be organized based on the number of treatments applied, to Single fumigant treatment” and “Combinations with Other Fumigants or Treatments”. In the latter category, they distinguished between “Sequential Combination Treatments” and “Concomitant Combination Treatments”. The latter section was modified for clarity to read “Concurrent Combination Treatments” because one TPPT member felt that “concomitant” would cause confusion. The TPPT agreed to this change.

[7] Regarding the section on “Pressure testing the enclosure” the TPPT discussed how specific the information on half decay time should be presented. One TPPT member suggested that values on what is suitable are necessary. The TPPT agreed to reinstate the previously deleted example of what is deemed suitable for an enclosure for the application of methyl bromide (a half decay time of 10 seconds during which air pressure decays from 200 Pa to 100 Pa). It was articulated, that this is just an example of

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<sup>1</sup> TPPT membership list: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/81655/>

methyl bromide fumigation and another TPPT member suggested the possibility of the addition of an Appendix with this information already established for other fumigant types too.

- [8] In the section on “Fumigation Equipment” one member felt the wording “calibrated to accepted standards” was not clear. Consequently, a sentence was added to replace the wording with “calibrated with traceability to national or international standards”.
- [9] The TPPT discussed the section on “Heating equipment” and decided to delete the first part of the section on the necessity of heating when the temperature falls close to the boiling point of the fumigant. The TPPT agreed that it is redundant to specify this, since it depends on the type of fumigant used and in any case, the fumigation treatments schedule will determine the temperatures where the fumigation can be conducted. The second part of the section recommends not to use exposed heating sources when fumigating with flammable fumigants or fumigants that decompose at high temperatures. The TPPT members agreed that a referral to Appendix 2 (Chemical properties of some common fumigants) is required in this section.
- [10] In the section on “Gas circulation equipment”, the TPPT decided to remove the example provided on the exact capacity of electric fans used to circulate air in the fumigation enclosure, since there are different regulations applied. They agreed to keep the broader definition of “fans capable of moving a volume 3 to 10 times the volume of the fumigation enclosure per hour”.
- [11] The discussion on the section “Instruments to measure vacuum” focused on the necessary resolution of the measuring devices. The TPPT discussed whether the sentence “within 10 Pa of the actual pressure” was accurate enough. Another TPPT member suggested to delete “U-tube” as a measuring device from this section. The TPPT decided not to delete, but emphasized that the listed devices “may be used” thus opening up the possibility to use other devices.
- [12] When discussing the section on “Instruments to monitor gas concentration”, one TPPT member suggested changing the accuracy of the instruments from 0.1 g/m<sup>3</sup> to +/- 5 % of the fumigant concentration expected during fumigation. The TPPT agreed to this modification.
- [13] In relation to the section on “Commodity loading” the TPPT decided to change the description of the required total free air space in case of container fumigation since it was redundant. The new description enhances clarity but still incorporates the concept.
- [14] The list of the types of sorption were removed from the “Sorption” section since it didn’t directly relate to the purpose of the ISPM and was deemed redundant.
- [15] The TPPT discussed the section on the “Determination of fumigation temperature”. One TPPT member suggested that the number of thermometers recommended based on the size of the enclosure exceeded the required amount, but it was clarified that the numbers are only guidelines and the text allows experts to use less thermometers in case of purpose-built and insulated fumigation chambers so the original text was kept.
- [16] On the section “Introduction of the fumigant gas”, one TPPT member suggested to delete the reference to determining the temperature by checking with the weather bureau of the country since it’s the actual thermometer reading that should be used.
- [17] When discussing the section on “Measuring fumigant concentration” one TPPT member suggested applying a general change: to replace the “tube” with “line” as it is more appropriate. The change was approved by the TPPT.
- [18] The section on concentration over time (Ct) product calculation was modified and the explanation on how to calculate the cumulative Ct product was moved to the first paragraph of the section to ensure clarity. The modified first paragraph now explains the principles of CT product calculation on each location firstly, and then the calculation of the cumulative Ct product. Further on, the section describes the actual calculation.

- [19] The concept of re-infestation was discussed. It occurs twice in the sections on “Phytosanitary system security” and “Phytosanitary security measures at the treatment facility” together with “loss of integrity”, “contamination” and “infestation”. One TPPT member suggested to delete these terms, as in this case, the distinction is not necessary, it is adequate to mention infestation, and the rest is not required. Some TPPT members suggested keeping it, and waiting for countries to comment on it during first consultation. Another TPPT member suggested to add “subsequent” before each mention of infestation, re-infestation. After an in-depth discussion, the TPPT decided not to change the text.
- [20] The remaining two sections of the draft (“Import inspection” and “Authority”) and the 3 appendixes will be discussed in an e-forum that opens on the 13 January 2017 and closes on the 24 of January. The members of the TPPT and the Steward may comment and discuss the remaining part of the draft in the forum and decide if the draft is ready to be submitted to the SC. The compiled suggestions will be then sent to the Steward, who will then finalize the draft.

#### 4. Other business

- [21] The IPPC Secretariat announced that the joint peer reviewed paper “Phytosanitary Treatments Against *Bactrocera dorsalis* (Diptera: Tephritidae): Current Situation and Future Prospects” was published in the Journal of Economic Entomology. The article was prepared by Mr Toshiyuki Dohino, Mr Guy J. Hallman and Mr Scott W. Myers as well as other experts.
- [22] The article was an outcome of the Expert Consultation on phytosanitary treatments for the *Bactrocera dorsalis* complex<sup>2</sup> 2014 Okinawa Japan than afterwards it became a Phytosanitary Measures Research Group (PMRG) task.
- [23] The TPPT and Secretariat congratulated the authors of the paper on their achievement.

#### 5. Close of the meeting

- [24] The Secretariat thanked all panel members for their participation and closed the meeting.

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<sup>2</sup> Report on the Expert Consultation on phytosanitary treatments for the *Bactrocera dorsalis* complex: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/standard-settings/expert-consultation-phytosanitary-treatments-bactrocera-dorsalis-complex/>

**Appendix 1: Agenda****2017 JANUARY VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PANEL ON  
PHYTOSANITARY TREATMENTS (TPPT)****12 January 2017****Time: 12:00-14:00 (GMT +1)****Adobe Connect****AGENDA**

<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>	<b>DOCUMENT NO.</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>
<b>1. Opening of the meeting</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat and introductions</li> </ul>	02_TPPT_2016_Dec	MOREIRA / ALL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adoption of the agenda and election of the rapporteur</li> </ul>	01_TPPT_2016_Dec	MOREIRA / ALL
<b>2. TPPT work programme</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft ISPM: Requirements for the use of fumigation treatments as a phytosanitary measure (2014-004)</li> </ul>	2014-004	OPATOWSKI / WANG / ORMSBY / ALL
<b>3. Other business</b>	-	MOREIRA
<b>4. Close of the meeting</b>	-	MOREIRA